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Geophysical Survey

**Viewfield
Cavendish Terrace
Carlisle
Desk-Based Assessment and
Archaeological Watching Brief**

Report No. 1778

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Commissioned by	Mr C Stothard via Architects Plus (UK) Ltd
Date issued	May 2010
Version	0
OASIS Reference	cfaarcha1-77401
Planning Application No	09/0701
Grid Ref	NY 339829 556832

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd
standard operating procedures.

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

1.1.1 This report presents the results of a rapid desk based assessment and archaeological watching brief carried out by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) between the 28th and 29th of April 2010 on the excavation of foundations for a proposed extension at Viewfield, Cavendish Terrace, Carlisle (Fig. 1). The watching brief was required by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was produced by CFA and approved by CCCHES. The work was commissioned by Architects Plus (UK) Ltd on behalf of Mr C. Stothard.

1.2 Background

1.2.1 Viewfield is situated 50 metres north of the supposed course of the Vallum of Hadrian's Wall, a World Heritage Site; although the property does not lie within the scheduled zone itself. As such any groundworks in the area can be expected to have the possibility of encountering archaeological features or finds from the Roman or other periods. No known sites lie within the property area of Viewfield but a Desk Based Assessment highlighted a number of sites in the immediate vicinity of the property, ranging in date from the Bronze Age to the Post-Medieval period (Fig. 1).

1.3 Objectives

1.3.1 The objectives of the programme of archaeological works were:

- To conduct an archaeological watching brief to identify, investigate and record any surviving archaeological remains revealed during the course of the development ground works.
- To produce a written report detailing the results of the watching brief and conduct any necessary post-excavation work.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 General

2.1.1 All work complied with the requirements of CCCHES. Work was conducted with regard to the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Code of Conduct.

2.2 Desk Based Assessment

2.2.1 A rapid desk based assessment was undertaken by examining the Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Record.

2.3 Watching Brief

2.3.1 The Institute for Archaeologists has produced a Standard for archaeological watching briefs. This states that watching briefs are intended to allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits which could not be established in advance of development, and to provide an opportunity for the archaeologist to signal to all interested parties if an archaeological find is made before its destruction.

2.3.2 A watching brief was conducted during all topsoil stripping, ground reduction and excavation of footings.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESULTS

3.1 Desk-Based Assessment

- 3.1.1 In order to put the watching brief area in to context an assessment of the known archaeological sites was conducted. Details of the sites can be found in Appendix 2. Numbers in parenthesis are study specific numbers. The location of the sites is shown on Fig. 1. The most relevant to the sensitivity of the development area are described below.
- 3.1.2 The projected course of the Vallum of Hadrian's Wall (16) lies 50m to the south of the property, although the property itself does not lie within the Scheduled Area. A number of find spots of Roman masonry such as altars and sculptures (2, 4, 5, 8 & 9) have been encountered within the local area, as has a Roman burial (3). The site of a Roman cemetery, Hyssop Bank (1), lies around 50m to the south-east of Viewfield and circumstantial evidence suggests that Hadrian's Wall Milecastle No 66 (10) may have been situated around 100m to the south-west of the property. The Roman civilian settlement, or Vicus, at Stanwix (13) is situated around 200m to the north-east of the property. Sites from other periods include a Bronze Age ditch situated in Rickerby Park (7).
- 3.1.3 No previous work has been conducted within the development area and no known sites or find spots were identified within it. However, the desk based assessment indicated that the site lay within an area of high archaeological potential.

3.2 Watching Brief

- 3.2.1 The development area was partially occupied by a brick outbuilding attached to the south face of the frontage property. This was laid on a concrete foundation and a raised garden bed was situated to the north. Ground works comprised of the demolition and removal of the outbuilding, the breaking up and removal of the concrete foundation, excavation of 1m of the raised garden bed and the excavation of a foundation trench running around the perimeter of the proposed extension. The foundation trench measured 6m by 6.2m by 6m in plan, 0.8m in width and between 0.2m and 0.5m in depth (Fig. 2).
- 3.2.2 Following the removal of the existing concrete foundation, a 0.1m deep deposit of subsoil (**001**) was revealed which directly overlay the natural subsoil. The subsoil consisted of a grey-brown clay-silt and had been truncated by the brick foundations of the outbuilding which were left *in situ*. No archaeological features were encountered within the subsoil and it was not excavated except for the actual foundation trenches. Prior to excavation for the new foundation trenches a 1m wide strip of the raised garden bed was excavated down to the proposed working level which included the removal of a stone gateway and wall. The raised garden comprised a 0.5m thick deposit of grey-black sandy-silt topsoil. No archaeological remains were encountered during this phase of the works.

- 3.2.3 The excavation for the foundation trench revealed natural subsoil comprising pink-orange silt-clay directly underlying the subsoil described above.
- 3.2.4 A shallow gully (**002**) orientated north-west/south east was uncovered during excavation for the foundation trenches (Figs. 2 & 3). It was cut directly into the natural subsoil with a total exposed length of 3.5m a width of 0.3m and a depth of 0.16m. It had a shallow u-shaped cut with a concave base and gently sloping sides. It was filled with brown-grey clay-silt with frequent inclusions of small rounded and sub-rounded stones (**003**). It is thought that this was a garden drainage feature. The entirety of the feature was removed and no finds were recovered.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The archaeological watching brief at Viewfield, Cavendish Terrace, Carlisle identified no archaeological remains except for a shallow gully identified as a probable drain.
- 4.2 CFA recommends that no further work be done on this development; however the final decision remains with CCCHES.
- 4.3 The project archive, comprising all CFA record sheets, maps and reports, will be deposited with Tillie House Museum. Copies of the report will be lodged with Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Record.
- 4.4 The project will be reported through OASIS.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Photo Register

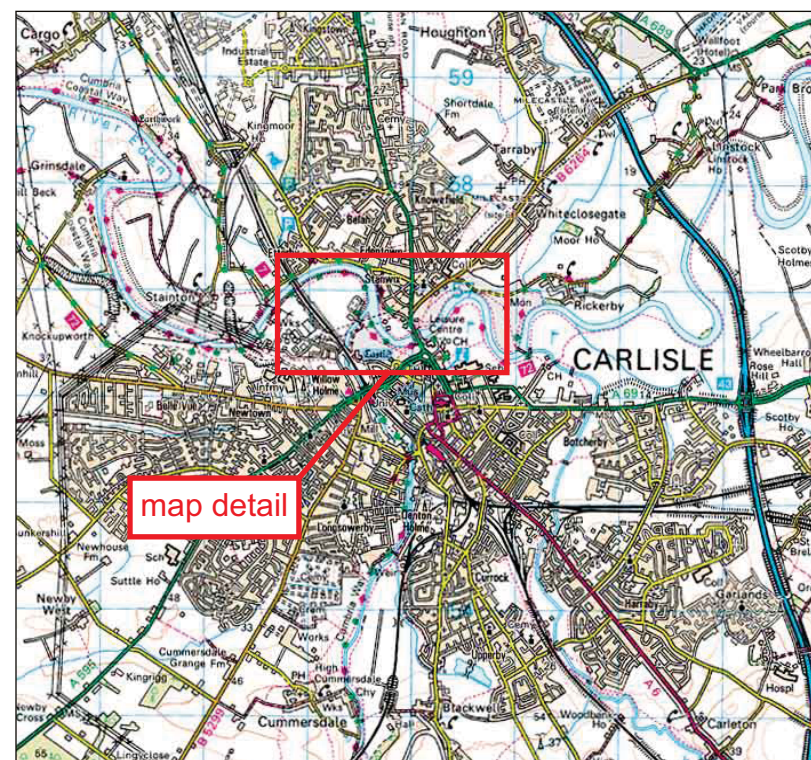
Shot	Description	From	Conditions
1	Registration shot	-	-
2	Shot of outbuilding prior to demolition	SSE	Overcast
3	Shot of outbuilding, concrete base and raised garden	SE	Overcast
4	Shot of outbuilding with house in background	NNW	Overcast
5	Detail of join between house and outbuilding	N	Overcast
6	General shot of site from raised garden	N	Overcast
7	Shot of western side of outbuilding	NNE	Overcast
8	General shot of front of property	SE	Overcast
9	Shot from property showing Carlisle castle	N	Overcast
10	Shot of red sandstone slabs underlying out building	N	Overcast
11	Shot of red sandstone slabs underlying out building	NE	Overcast
12	Post-excavation shot of site after initial strip and demolition	NNE	Overcast
13	Post-excavation shot of site after initial strip and demolition	NNE	Overcast
14	Soil profile after removal of gate post	SW	Overcast
15	Post-excavation shot after removal of raised garden	SW	Rain
16	SE facing section of foundation trench	SE	Overcast
17	Post-excavation shot of foundation trench	NNE	Overcast
18	Post-excavation shot of foundation trench	NE	Overcast
19	Shot of probable field drain	SW	Overcast
20	NW facing section through field drain	NW	Overcast
21	Post-excavation of foundation trench	N	Overcast
22	Post-excavation shot of foundation trench	NE	Overcast
23	Shot of continuation of field drain	SE	Overcast
24	Post-excavation shot of foundation trench	W	Overcast
25	Post-excavation shot of foundation trench	SW	Overcast
26	General post-excavation shot of site	NE	Overcast

Appendix 2: Context Register

Context No.	Type	Description
001	Deposit	Subsoil - grey-brown clay-silt
002	Cut	Linear gully - shallow u-shaped cut with a concave base and gently sloping sides with a width of 0.3m and a depth of 0.16m.
003	Fill	Fill of 002 - brown-grey clay-silt with frequent inclusions of small rounded and sub-rounded stones

Appendix 3: Gazetteer of Sites

DBA No	Site Name	Site Type	Site Form	General Period	Specific Period	SMR No	NGR
1	Hyssop Bank Cemetery, Carlisle	Cemetery	Site Of	Roman	Unknown	434	339808 556781
2	Pillar find, Stanwix Bank, Carlisle	Architectural Fragment	Find	Roman	Unknown	440	339980 556740
3	Pillar find, Stanwix Bank, Carlisle	Burial	Find	Roman	Unknown	440	339980 556740
4	Pillar find, Stanwix Bank, Carlisle	Sculpture	Find	Roman	Unknown	440	339980 556740
5	Carved Stone, Stanwix, Carlisle	Carved Stone	Find	Roman	Unknown	472	339980 556740
6	Carlisle - Newcastle Military Road	Road	Site Of	Post Medieval	Unknown	5081	339982 556742
7	Rickerby Park Ditch, Carlisle	Ditch	Earthwork	Prehistoric	Bronze Age	490	340004 556770
8	Carved Stone, Stanwix, Carlisle	Carved Stone	Find	Roman	Unknown	470	339903 556901
9	Altar Find, Stanwix, Carlisle	Altar	Find	Roman	Unknown	474	339903 556901
10	Hadrian's Wall Milecastle 66, Stanwix Bank	Milecastle	Circumstantial Evidence	Roman	Hadrianic	433	339662 556709
11	Carlisle Bridge, River Eden	Bridge	Site Of	Roman	Hadrianic	436	339662 556709
12	Stanwix Roman Civil Settlement	Vicus	Site Of	Roman	Unknown	500	340305 556901
13	Priestbeck Bridge, Carlisle	Bridge	Other Structure	Post Medieval	Unknown	4542	340121 556629
14	Corporation Dam, Carlisle	Leat	Documentary Evidence	Medieval	Plantagenet	41072	339750 556547
15	Hadrian's Wall and Vallum	Frontier Defence	Other Structure	Roman	Hadrianic	5782	339883 556757 etc
16	Column Base find, River Eden	Architectural Fragment	Find	Roman	Unknown	17951	339732



Key:

- development site
- Historic sites

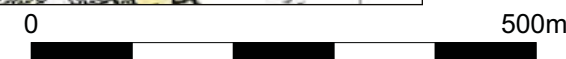
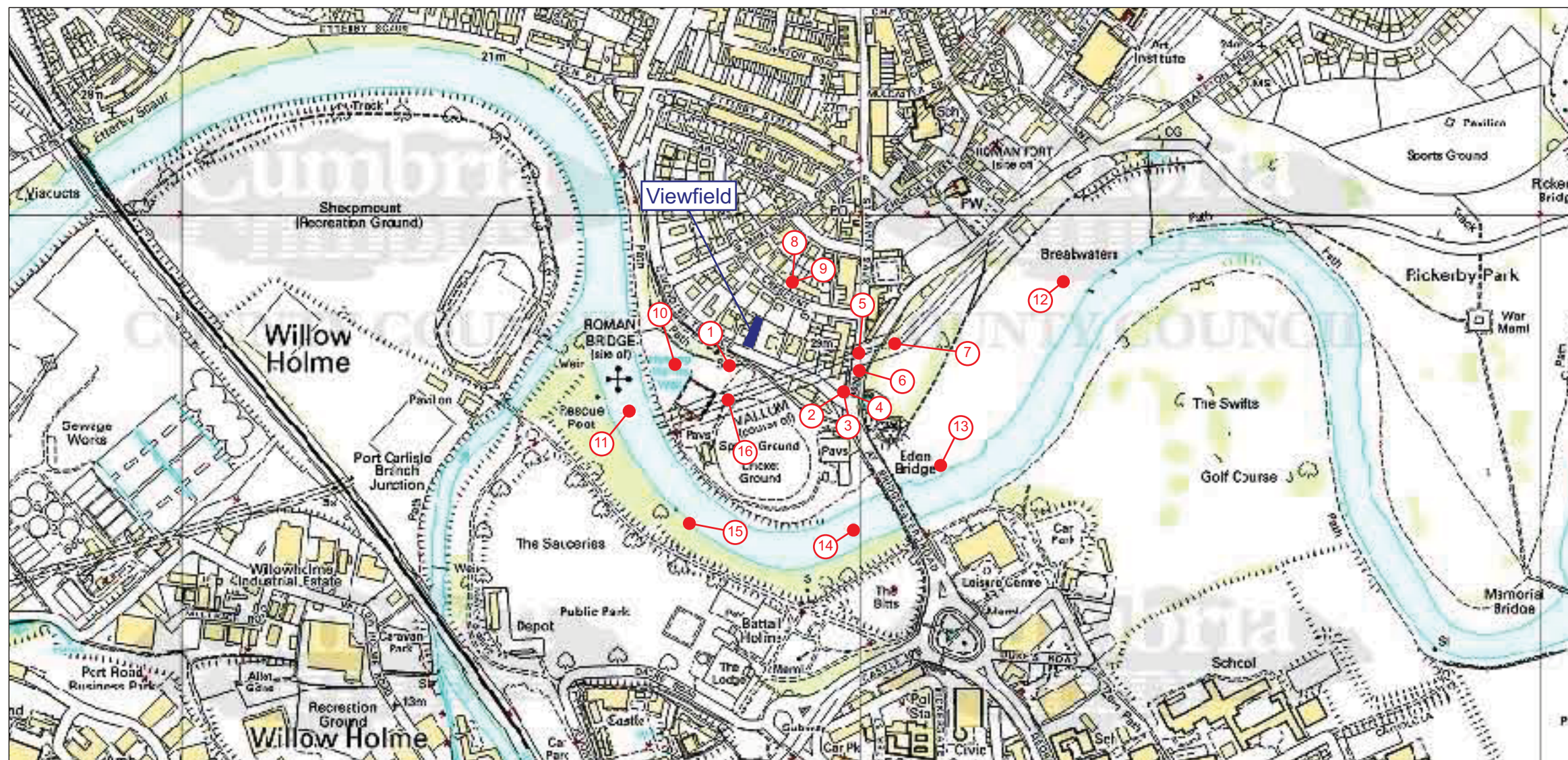


Fig. No: 1 Revision: A

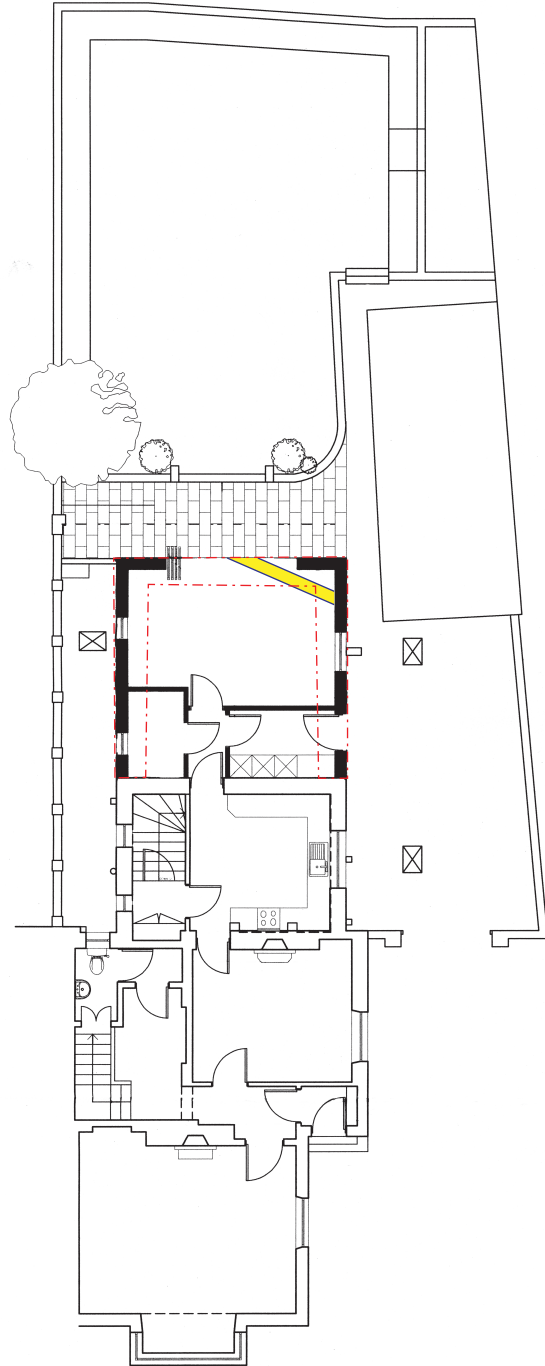
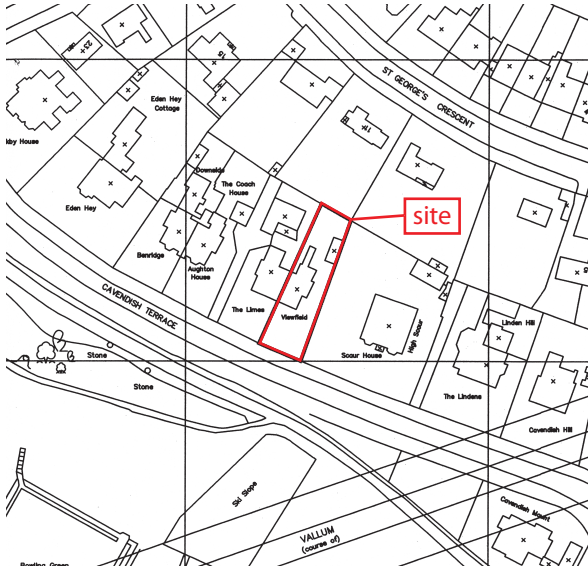
Title:
Location plan and plan showing location of sites identified in the desk based assessment

Project:
Viewfield, Cavendish Terrace, Carlisle

Scale:

Client:
Mr C. Stothard

Drawn by: GC Report No: 1778



Key:

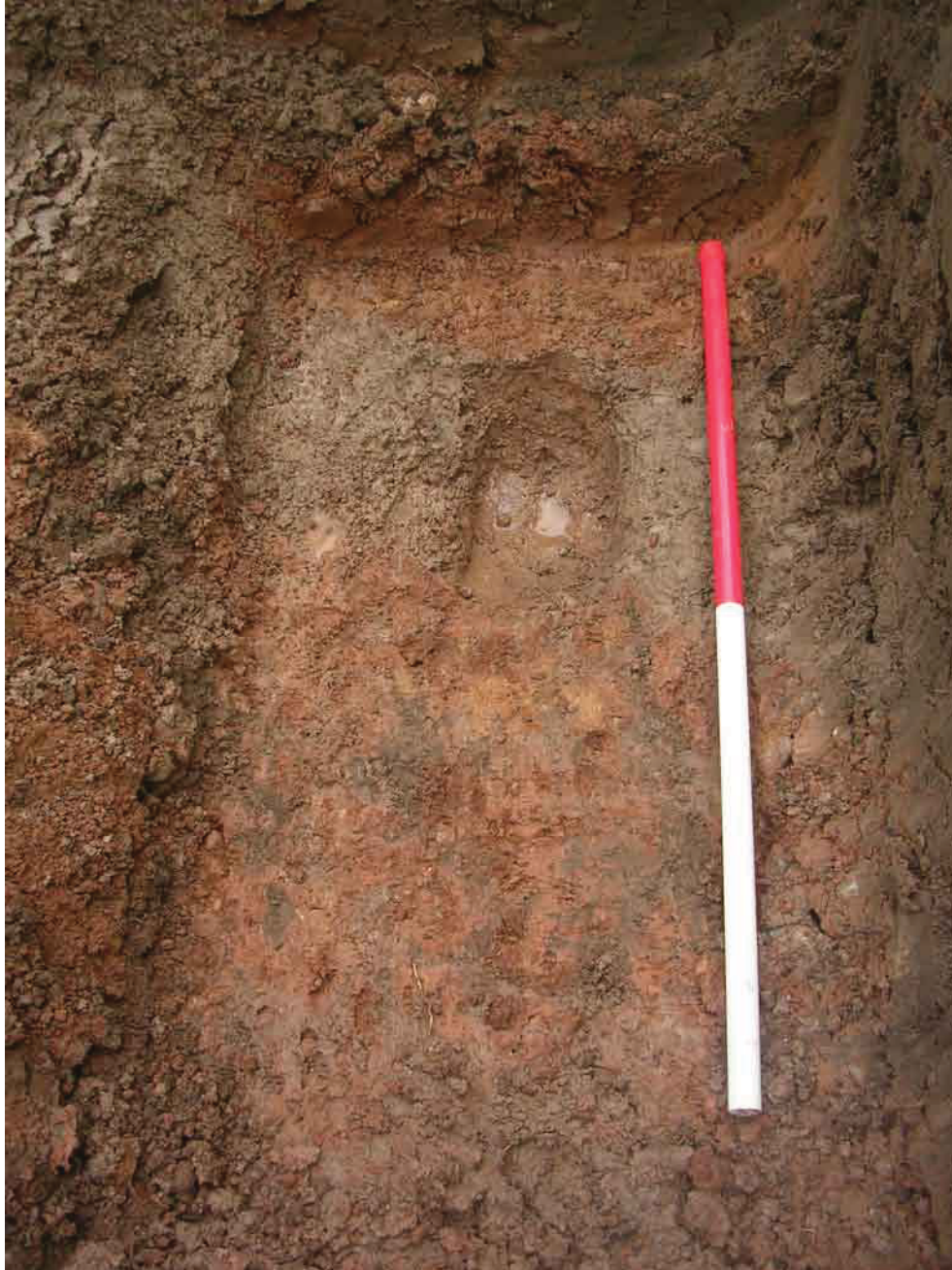
- foundation trench
- probable garden drain

Fig. No:	2	Revision:		Client:	Mr C. Stothard
Title: Location of foundation trench and position of probable garden drain					
Project: Viewfield, Cavendish Terrace, Carlisle					

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Key:

Fig. No: **3**

Revision:

Client: **Mr C. Stothard**

Title: **Photo of probable garden drain found in foundation trench**

Project: **Viewfield, Cavendish Terrace, Carlisle**

Scale:



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